

**CANDIDATES TALK WAR.**

**MEN WHO SEEK STATE OFFICES PREAMBLES LOYALTY.**

**Small Crowd Attends Meeting at Beaufort — DesChamps Recommends Himself Highly.**

Beaufort, June 20.—Another apathetic State campaign meeting was held at Beaufort tonight with an audience of approximately 250 persons, about 150 of whom were voters, listening to the speeches of 21 candidates, George W. Wightman and Octavius Cohen, candidates for lieutenant governor, being absent.

The most interesting incident of the meeting was the picturesque place of meeting. Under the mellow light of a nearly full moon, the candidates delivered their addresses in court yard of the armory of the Beaufort Volunteer Artillery and their voices mingled with the chirp of the crickets. The candidates tonight taking advantage of the patriotic attitude that Beaufort has shown toward the war, made speeches which dealt almost entirely with the present crisis.

John M. DesChamps, the first gubernatorial speaker, came out for the universal military training and a higher education. He modestly declared that he was as well conversed in world affairs as any man in the State, had been called the equal of Wilson and could take his place at the peace table at the conclusion of the war with the greatest minds of this country and of the old world and discuss the most intricate problems arising from the struggle. That is the kind of governor South Carolina should elect. He also claimed he was responsible for the election of Governor Manning, whom he praised as being one of the best governors that the State has had in the past quarter of a century and asserted he brought Senator Tillman into the race for reelection.

John T. Duncan described the iniquities of the "system" to the voters of Beaufort.

John L. McLaurin made a purely patriotic speech, declaring that when the Lusitania was sunk he then thought that the United States should have entered the war, but had come to the conclusion later that it took the two following years of education and instruction by President Wilson to awake the American people from their lethargy and bring to them a realization of what the struggle means to the world.

Thomas H. Peoples, speaking on his native heath, said that this was no time to inject factional politics into a campaign, but the people should stand united behind the government in the prosecution of the war. He said that one of the main missions of the candidates for various offices was to teach the people that America is "fighting for Christianity and mankind, that the people of the world shall not be crucified on the cross of imperialism."

John G. Richards again deprecated the assertion that the war is an issue in the campaign. He claimed that in his belief all the people of South Carolina are 100 per cent. American. He also made a patriotic address, predicating that the war will be won by American soldiers.

Leut. Governor A. J. Bethea made an intensely patriotic speech and took issue with Major Richards on the war. He claimed that the war is the great overshadowing issue of the campaign. Mr. Bethea was presented with a bouquet of flowers tonight. He is the second candidate to have been given flowers on the campaign. Major Richards was given a bunch at Barnwell Tuesday.

Robert A. Cooper said that a great monument should greet the boys in khaki when they come from "over there" and it should be a vigorous and efficient educational system. He advocated a system which would embody both the literary and the industrial branches of training.

Mr. Cooper promised if elected governor to be the governor of all the people or to be the governor of none of the people. He said he had made no promises nor had he entered into a trade. Before he would do either he would go down in defeat for a third time.

**B. L. ABNEY RELIEVED.**

**Losses Position of General Counsel of Southern Because of Alleged Unpatriotic Remarks.**

Washington, June 20.—B. L. Abney, for many years general counsel for the Southern Railway at Columbia, has been relieved of his position because his attitude toward the administration did not suit Mr. McAdoo.

A short time ago Mr. Abney was approached in behalf of the Red Cross. He failed to respond and is said to have made unpatriotic remarks regarding the matter. A report of what he said reached the authorities here and today it was announced that Mr. Abney's resignation had been requested and accepted. The name of his successor has not been announced.

**TWISTS AND SQUIRMS.**

**BLEASE TRIES TO CAMOUFLAGE DISLOYAL UTTERANCES.**

**Throws Blame for Anti-American Sentiment in Filbert Speech on Reporter for Blease Newspaper—Mahaffy Exposes False Position.**

York, June 20.—Just as migrating birds in their seasonal flight interlock their wings and marshal themselves in wedge formation to beat down resistance, so Cole L. Blease today marched with the other senatorial candidates following the itinerary as mapped out by the State Democratic executive committee.

Filbert is only a few miles away from York and it was at that point the first of last August, four months after the declaration of the war, that Mr. Blease is said by Bleasete newspapers to have said that he did not "care what kind of an America" was here when he was dead and gone.

It was the old old story. Even the newspapers which have striven in season and out of season to advance his cause and defend his record had not quoted him correctly. Practically his entire speech was given to a discussion of his attitude on the war.

Mr. Blease was the last speaker introduced. When reminded by J. A. Marion, county chairman, that each speaker was allotted 30 minutes, he declined to speak, saying the attacks made on him through the press and other lies could not be answered in 15 of 20 minutes, and he refused to speak "under the hammer of a partisan Democratic executive committee." As soon as the crowd had dispersed the Blease forces called the audience back into the "open forum" in the court house, when Mr. Blease delivered a lengthy address.

He was opposed to the war and had been in congress at the time war was declared he would have voted against America's entrance. He had no apology to make and no excuses to offer to any man or set of men for what he said at Pomaria, Filbert, Pickens and Chapin. If a free and untrammelled discussion of the war could be allowed during the months of July and August, he would be pleased to debate the issue with any man or men "they might send down from Washington." "Let them take the bridle off," he said.

Fully 90 per cent. of the people of the State were opposed to the war, the speaker asserted, and fully 75 per cent. of the boys from the State now in the war "belong to the Reform party." Although opposed at the outset, all were patriots now. "Now it's war to the knife and the knife to the kill."

Any man who said or wrote that "Cole L. Blease ever uttered one word against his country or committed one act of disloyalty is a liar."

Mr. Blease has something to say about Senator Tillman, but would not refer to him today. He will write the senator a letter, asking that certain campaign meetings be designated for joint debates between the two. If the senator fails to do this Mr. Blease will designate them and so notify Senator Tillman and "if Senator Tillman's there I'll say them, and if he is not there I'll say them."

Following the speech by Mr. Blease the Rev. J. E. Mahaffy, who recently announced his candidacy for the United States senate but later withdrew, called out to the audience that he would in answer to Mr. Blease tell how the United States could have stayed out of the war. Mr. Mahaffy was followed by rapt attention and his words met with tumultuous applause. He said:

"Everybody knows that all of us here are opposed to the war. This whole nation of ours is opposed to any such thing, but Mr. Blease failed to tell us how we could have stayed out of this war. Now I want to tell you just how we could have stayed out. I once heard of a country home close to a church in which a protracted meeting had been going on for about three weeks. All the chickens had been used up except one. Many of them had died hard on hot days after running long in defense of their lives, but when the preacher arrived on this last day rather than be chased and captured in such violent heat and have to die at last, the remaining chicken walked in solemn mood and laid his head upon the block as the ax man came in sight, thereby saving himself much trouble and vexation. Now, of course, when our enemy got through with Belgium, then devoured France, then Russia and England, of course America could have laid her neck on the block as the last good meal for a hungry brute, but fellow citizens, somehow or other America is not built that way."

N. R. Dial of Laurens also got in a bold stroke today when he challenged Mr. Tillman and his followers to get from President Wilson a statement that Mr. Tillman was a necessary adjunct to the naval affairs committee as the president recently gave in the case of Mr. Lever as essential

**ON THE FRONT.**

**AMERICAN SOLDIERS NOW HOLD THIRTY-EIGHT MILES.**

**The Huns Have Found Out That It is Possible to Send American Troops to Europe.**

Washington, June 21.—American soldiers are now holding the fighting line for a distance of 38 miles on the western front, according to information given members of the house military committee at the weekly conference today with Secretary Baker and March.

**AMERICAN CASUALTY LIST.**

**Marines Again Suffer Greater Loss Indicating Harder Fighting.**

Washington, June 21.—The army casualty list contains 38 names today. Killed in action, 6; died of wounds, 1; died of disease, 3; wounded severely, 27; wounded, 1.

**Marines Lost Ten.**

Washington, June 21.—The marine corps casualties totaled one hundred and twenty-seven. Killed in action, 10; died of wounds, 19; wounded severely, 98. Arthur B. Sawyer, of Keywest, Fla., killed in action; Donald M. Blankenship of Rome, Ga., died of wounds; Clarence E. Curtiss, of Roundlake, Fla., Charles E. Dill, of Elton, Ga., Lee E. Crawford, of Macon, Ga., David E. Brown of Chamble, Ga., wounded severely.

**SPECIAL DRAFT CALLED.**

**Nearly Nine Thousand Men Needed For Special Service.**

Washington, June 21.—General Crowder today called for 8,976 draft registrants qualified for general military service to be sent on July 15 to various section schools for special training. The call will be held open for volunteers until July 1st.

to the committee on agriculture in the house. "I know they cannot do it," Mr. Dial told his audience, "and I defy them to try to do so."

Both Mr. Dial and Mr. Rice kept up the drive on Mr. Tillman's alleged decrepitude, each referring to the paragraph in the letter which Mr. Tillman is sending to each county chairman, which paragraph reads:

"My family and some of my devoted friends have urged me not to run, fearing that it would injure my health, I feel that I have grown old in the service of the State and if my strength has been spent, it has been given for South Carolina and the performance of my duty here as a senator to the best of my ability."

The meeting today was attended by between 150 and 175 persons, although Blease's coming had been widely heralded. Reports were also current on the streets that the county had been circuit ridden by Blease leaders in an effort to stage a widely enthusiastic demonstration. It was also emphasized here this afternoon that many of Blease's most ardent supporters in the county had changed from their former political alignment and were not present today.

Mr. Blease got a round of applause when he was introduced and also at the conclusion of his speech, but the Mahaffy "clinger" neutralized much of the probable sentiment and the consensus of opinion in York tonight is that the Blease demonstration was as ineffective as a smoke bomb.

In explanation of the newspaper account of his Filbert speech as published here Mr. Blease said:

"I, at Filbert, was repeating my Pomaria speech in which I said that I believed that President Wilson and the members of congress who voted for the war would be held responsible for every American life that was lost in it, and if my soul is to be lost I did not care what kind of an America they had after I was dead and gone and neither does your boy. The young man who reported that speech got a part of what I said and got it correctly, but he did not take all of my speech and no sensible man could expect him to take it. Those who for a malicious purpose took part of his speech and condemned me for it, lied and knew they lied."

The Yorkville Enquirer, published in York, and one of the most ardent Blease supporters in the State, reported Mr. Blease as saying after having been cautioned that day to quote him correctly:

"I was never prouder in my life when I picked up a paper last April and noticed that Fred Dominick voted against the war. The Third congressional district of South Carolina stands steadily behind him in it and there is no man who can beat him for congress."

"Oh, God, you people don't realize what it means. Wait until you pick up the paper and read the casualty lists. They talk about a free America. I don't care what kind of an America it is when I am dead and gone. Neither does your boy."

**GRAFT PLANS EXPOSED.**

**METHODS OF CONTINGENT FEE CONTRACT AGENTS REVEALED.**

**Department of Justice Finds Much Valuable Information in Examining Correspondence.**

Washington, June 20.—Methods by which contingent fee contract agents in Washington suppressed competition in bidding on government war orders, inflated prices, manipulated bids and even "double crossed" their own clients by representing competing contractors, were uncovered today by the department of justice in examining correspondence seized in raids on the contract brokers' offices.

Some manufacturers paid thousands of dollars for "purely imaginary services" of the contract agents who often turned over confidential information of bids to other clients or used them to enter lower bids in their own names, said a review of the findings issued by Assistant Attorney General Thompson in charge of the prosecutions. By representing several competitive bidders at the same time, agents sometimes boosted prices in the same way as a conspiracy would have done.

To evade government regulations intended to eliminate men in bidding the agents sought to have manufacturers consider the broker offices branches of the manufacturers business, supply the agent with letter heads and authority to represent the contractor direct.

"Some letters to favored clients," said the department of justice announcement, "contained promises not to put in bids for certain other concerns represented by the agent, nor put them in touch with the business, if the favored client desired to bid."

"Another favorite scheme was to get quotations or options from several manufacturers who were thus eliminated from direct bidding."

The agent with the advantage of this price knowledge would then bid in his own name and if awarded the contract proceed to fill it by exercising the option given by the manufacturer who quoted the lowest price to him. The benefits of competition were thus appropriated by the agent instead of resulting in low prices to the government.

"Under another plan the agent procured bids addressed to the government from several concerns. These prices were then communicated to the favored bidder who presumably paid the largest commission, so that he could revise his bid before it was submitted to the government by the agent along with those of the competing clients."

"In some instances the agents are said to have put in their own bid in competition with their clients, thus playing sure for either a profit or a commission."

"Letters sent to manufacturers by the agents recite the government's desire that all contracts be made directly with manufacturers and say that officials are frowning upon dealers, jobbers, and middle men, and for this reason we are gradually discontinuing the practice of bidding in our own name."

"They suggest that the broker's office be made a branch of the factory, handle all business in the manufacturer's name, put on a commission basis, the business to be transacted on the manufacturer's stationery by the commission concern and all mail for the manufacturer to be addressed to him at the broker's office."

"They ask for a supply of the manufacturer's letter heads and state that one of the first things they will do will be to circularize government purchasing officers, with whom we are in touch."

**IRISH AGITATOR ARRESTED.**

**If Abuse of England is a Crime There are Other Criminals in South Carolina.**

Spartanburg, June 21.—John Burns, an Irishman, aged 85, is being held by the county authorities until a federal warrant can be issued, charging sedition. The prisoner admits making bitter remarks against England, but denies disloyal remarks against the United States.

**BENEFITS SOUTHERN PORTS.**

**One Discrimination Against Southern Ports Removed by Government Control.**

Washington, June 21.—A through freight rate from the Southeast to the West lower than the combination rates heretofore in effect, has been ordered established by the railroad administration.

**BRITISH CASUALTY LIST.**

**Loss Reported for One Week 36,620.**  
London, June 21.—British casualties reported for the week ended today aggregate 36,620.

**BLEASE MAY BOLT.**

**SO SAYS MR. DIAL IN LANCASTER SPEECH.**

**Laurens Candidate Scores Tillman and Says Ex-Governor Should Be Ruled Out of Party.**

Lancaster, June 21.—Warning of a possible bolt from the Democratic primary by Cole L. Blease was given here today by N. B. Dial of Laurens, candidate for the United States senate, in answer to Mr. Blease's refusal yesterday at York to "speak under the hammer of a partisan Democratic executive committee." The hour was critical, in the opinion of Mr. Dial, and reports were that the Bleasetes were effecting campaign machinery throughout the State. "I warn every man who has a son or a brother in France or who wants to see this country a better place to live in to organize and be prepared for any eventuality," he said.

The cry of fraud two years ago, upon which Mr. Blease put much stress at the York meetings yesterday, also drew the Laurens county candidate's fire. Blease didn't protest the election, as the rules of the party require. If he had done this and had placed the charges of fraud before the committee, he could have taken his case to court for redress, if the committee had not investigated, Mr. Dial said. If he did not have the manhood to do this, then the people ought to say to him as a man in Georgia was enjoined, "We want to hear nothing, but silence from you and damned little of that."

Blease had the habit of going around over the State calling people liars behind their backs, but "Nobody in the State is afraid of Blease." Blease ought to be ruled out of the Democratic party for his refusal to follow the itinerary of the senatorial campaign as provided by the executive committee, particularly since Blease had been one of the loudest to proclaim the virtues of the canvass. "If any man can come and refuses to come, he ought not to be considered by the voters, and any man who is not able to make the canvass has no business in the race."

Mr. Dial again today defied Senator Tillman and his friends to procure from either President Wilson or from the naval affairs committee a statement that Senator Tillman was essential to the committee. He also read again the story of the senator's enfeebled condition from The Literary Digest and quoted Senator Tillman as saying that he had not received the chairmanship of the committee on appropriations because the committeemen "thought the work would kill me." Also, if the senator was equal to the duties incident to the office, member of his own family and his intimate friends would not have strenuously urged that he stay out of the race this summer, as voiced by Senator Tillman each day in his letter to the county chairman.

The defeat of both Senator Tillman and Mr. Blease was predicted this summer as both had gained their political preferment from the same faction. They had for years worked in double harness and Blease was "the political stepson of Tillman." Later there was a divergence and "Senator Tillman slapped in the face the very people who put him in office." His hope for reelection now was from the people he "cussed" when he first gained political ascendancy. "Now they (Tillman and Blease) are both cussing each other and the more they cuss each other the better it suits me."

The cry which went up from Senator Tillman in his early campaigns was: "Rotation! Rotation! Rotation!" The people were told that the offices were monopolized; that "few office holders die and none resign." When he got in office the cry of rotation was never heard again and Tillman became stationary. The senator had been in office continuously 28 years, which ought to be enough to satisfy any man's ambition.

The Laurens man also took notice of the statement by Mr. DesChamps, candidate for governor, that he was advocating the reelection of Senator Tillman and would come to his defense whenever the senior senator was attacked. Each man had his hands full with his own race, Mr. Dial said, and he would urge that Mr. DesChamps go back to his "third party" he set about to organize two years ago after his defeat for governor. The Rock Hill candidate for governor had no place in the Democratic party and was only trying to "ride into office" on Senator Tillman's coattails.

Mr. Rice also got in some thrusts at the senior senator. To the question, "What shall we do with Uncle Ben?" he would reply, "Retire him to his happy home at Trenton, just as the country retired George Washington, the Father of the Country, when he had served two terms as president."

The Anderson county man did not think he should be disqualified for the office because he happened to be born in Virginia and not in South

**NINE HUNDRED THOUSAND.**

**AMERICAN HOST IN FRANCE GROWING RAPIDLY.**

**Gen. March Makes Official Announcement of Arrival Overseas of Another Hundred Thousand Men.**

Washington, June 22.—Nine hundred thousand men have been shipped over seas General March told the newspaper correspondents at the weekly conference today.

He said that the United States is today five months ahead of its program for placing an army in France.

The additional hundred thousand reported safe in France since last week's conference is taken to indicate the rate of progress that is being made.

Viewing the general battle situation on all fronts, Gen. March said that the Central powers again were being firmly held on all fronts.

**BIG REWARD FOR NEWS.**

**Information That Will Locate Submarine Base Will Win One Thousand Dollars for Informant.**

New York, June 20.—Authentic information that will lead to the location of an actual German submarine base will bring the informant not only the honor of having performed a patriotic act, but a reward of \$1,000. This offer was made here today by the commandant of the third naval district to stimulate the ambition of those likely to be in a position to obtain such information, particularly sea-faring men. The offer reads:

"The commandant, third naval district, 280 Broadway, New York, has been authorized to pay \$1,000 reward to any person who furnishes authentic information of any actual submarine base reserving the right to decide who is entitled to such reward and to apportion the reward if two or more persons find such information."

**AMERICAN CASUALTY LIST.**

**Army Has Heaviest Loss in Killed Since Army Got Into Battle.**

Washington, June 22.—The army casualty today contains one hundred and fifty-three names. Killed in action, 52; died of wounds, 26; died of accident, 11; died of disease, 9; wounded severely, 27; wounded, 2; missing in action, 15; prisoners, 1. Privates Ely Light, of Milbourne, Fla., James W. Ray, Pages Mill, S. C., were killed in action; Corporal Joseph F. Cely, of Eastely, died of wounds; Captain Mark W. Clark, of Atlanta, Privates Sammie Bell, Pensacola, Fla., Heyward Dennis, Troy, S. C., Walter P. Kyte, of Columbus, Ga.; Sam R. Lucas of Kershaw, S. C., and Wm. C. Parker of Macon, Ga., were wounded severely.

**Marines Lose Thirty-One.**

Washington, June 22.—The marine corps casualty list follows: Killed in action, 4; died of wounds, 15; wounded severely, 12.

**AIR LINE TO EUROPE.**

**British Officer Predicts Flights Across Atlantic Next Summer.**

Washington, June 21.—Big American air and seaplanes should be flying across the Atlantic to reach the front by next summer, Major General Branncker, of the British air ministry said today in a formal statement to the press.

**AMERICAN AVIATORS IN SERVICE.**

**Fighting With the Italians on Piave Front.**

Italian Headquarters, Thursday, June 20.—The first American aviators to fly on the Italian front went today on a bombing expedition, and succeeded in blowing two holes in the new Austrian bridge across the Piave river.

Carolina. He had been a resident of the State many years and cited instances of a number of men elected to public office in States in which they were not born. Congressman Stevenson, now representative of this district, was one. Hoke Smith of Georgia, United States senator, was another. He also did not think the holding of minor offices an essential qualification. He had never been in politics, but neither had the late Senator A. C. Latimer. He made an urgent plea for liberal support of the public schools and for better wages for teachers. The progress in providing better schools and school facilities was commendable and he had never kicked when a levy was placed on his property for school purposes. He was also vitally concerned with the development of agriculture. He had several farms and knew whereof he spoke as to legislation in the interest of farmers.

The meeting today was attended by 40 persons, including the candidates. No enthusiasm was shown and little interest manifested. The meeting tomorrow will be in Camden.